

Claims 1-11 (canceled)

12. (new) A lye container for a washing machine, the lye container comprising two halves, which are provided with additional connecting means comprising pins (8) and an opening (4) at the mouths (1, 2) of their open base sections to produce a fixed connection of the two halves, the openings (4, 4a) are attached in radial extensions (3, 3a) of the mouth of one base section and have a rear section (5, 5a) in the plug direction of the pin (8) and a front connecting area (6, 6a) which has a smaller diameter (15, 18); and that the pins (8) of the mouth of the other base section have a diameter which is larger than the smaller diameter (15, 18) of the connecting area (6, 6a) of the openings (4, 4a) of the radial extensions (3, 3a), wherein the pins (8) have an axial through hole (10) which can be penetrated by a rear access with a dowel (13) of the same diameter as the through hole and that each pin (8) has longitudinal slots (9) on its front end for easier insertion of the pin (8) into the allocated opening (4, 4a), wherein the wall of the pin (8) in the connecting area (6, 6a) closes as the slot (9) becomes narrower, and for subsequent insertion of the dowel (13) into the axial through hole (10) of the pin (8), wherein the slots in the wall of the pin (8) open again and the walls of the pin (8) press towards the walls of the opening (4, 4a) of the radial extension (3, 3a).

13. (new) The lye container according to Claim 12, wherein the rear section (5) of the opening (4) of the radial extension (3) in the plug direction of the pin (8) has a diameter which increases from inside to outside.

14. (new) The lye container according to Claim 13, wherein the rear section (5) of the opening (4) of the radial extension (3) is constructed as truncated-cone-shaped.

15. (new) The lye container according to Claim 12, wherein the rear section (6) of the opening (4) of the radial extensions (3) has a diameter which increases from the outside to the inside to facilitate the insertion of the pin (8).

16. (new) The lye container according to Claim 15, wherein the front section (6) is constructed as truncated-cone-shaped.

17. (new) The lye container according to Claim 12, wherein in the transition region from the front section (6a) to the rear section (5a) of the opening (4a) a gradation (18) is provided at a larger diameter behind which locating hooks (17) which terminate the free end of the pin (8), engage.

18. (new) The lye container according to Claim 12, wherein the opening (4, 4a) comprises an insertion stop (7) for the pin (8).

19. (new) The lye container according to Claim 12, wherein the dowel (13) in the axial through hole (10) is held by means of fixing ribs (12) before its driving in the rear access of the axial opening (10).

20. (new) The lye container according to Claim 12, wherein the rear access of the axial opening (10) has an entry section (11) having a diameter larger than that of the dowel (13).

21. (new) The lye container according to Claim 12, wherein the radial extension (3, 3a) at the rear end of the pin (8) has a concentric protective projection (14) for the dowel (13).

22. (new) The lye container according to Claim 12, wherein a self-tapping screw (19) and a washer (20) are provided, that the self-tapping screw (19) is screwed into the axial through hole (10) of the pin (8) from the free end of the pin (8) to execute a safety connection wherein the washer (20) is arranged on the access of the opening (4) of the radial extensions (3).

23. (new) A lye container for a washing machine, the lye container comprising:

a first container portion and a second container portion removably connected to one another, the first container portion having a first radial extension having a front section facing the second container portion and a rear section facing away from the second container portion;

an opening extending through the radial extension and having an inner diameter, the diameter near the rear section being greater than the diameter near the front section;

the second container portion having a second radial extension being removably engagable with the first radial extension, the engagement of the first and second radial extensions helping to create a seal between the first and second container portions;

a pin extending in an axial direction from the second radial extension to an outer end and having an outer diameter, an axial through hole, and longitudinal grooves extending along the pin, the maximum outer diameter of the pin being greater than the minimum inner diameter of the opening, the pin being at least partially disposed within the opening when the second radial extension engages the first radial extension; and

a dowel removably disposed within the axial through hole and helping maintain the second radial extension in engagement with the first radial extension.

24. (new) The lye container according to Claim 23, wherein the first radial extension includes stops extending inwardly near the rear section of the opening.

25. (new) The lye container according to Claim 23, wherein the dowel expands the outer end of the pin outwardly to engage the opening.

26. (new) The lye container according to Claim 23, wherein the opening near the rear section defines a truncated cone.

27. (new) The lye container according to Claim 23, wherein the axial through hole include fixing ribs to help retain the dowel in the desired position.

28. (new) The lye container according to Claim 23, wherein the first container portion includes multiple first radial extensions having openings and the second container portion includes multiple second radial extensions having pins, each pin being aligned with a corresponding opening.

29. (new) The lye container according to Claim 23, wherein the dowel includes a self-tapping screw.

30. (new) The lye container according to Claim 23, wherein the pin includes a hook near the outer end.